

Minutes

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Central Falls School District Board of Trustees

6:00 p.m.

Central Falls High School – Library

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present:

Cheryl Lafond

Stephanie Gonzalez

BK Nordan

Sonia Rodrigues

Ana-Cecilia Rosado

Anna Cano Morales

II. Pledge

III. Recognition

Banner Recognition – Registration Center

Hector Uribe was honored for his work developing the banner hanging in the Registration Center.

ASCA Conference proposals and conference presentations

Jacqueline Smith, Vanessa Soito, Nancy Raftery, Craig Conover, Karen Bradbury, Jennifer Fitts, and Christine Miller were all honored for their work in submitting proposals to the School Counselors Association Conference. The elementary proposal was accepted. Our counselors have certainly demonstrated their effectiveness in

this district.

IV. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of bills

b. Approval of personnel actions

c. Approval of meeting minutes

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Sonia Rodrigues, seconded by Ana-Cecilia Rosado, motion carried with one abstention: Cheryl Lafond.

V. Policy Revisions

a. Access to student records during safety/health emergency

Mr. De Coste presented a protocol to be attached to the FERPA letter normally sent out at the beginning of each school year. The protocol will be screened by legal before the second reading.

VI. Captain Hunt/Fairlawn presentation

A thorough and heartening presentation was led by Ms. Giroux, Principal of Captain Hunt/Fairlawn. Staff members joined her at the table to review specific programs along with the goals associated with each program. That PowerPoint presentation is attached for further review.

VII. Program Highlights

(a) Circles at Ella Risk

(b) Adventure Education at Square Mile

(c) Playgroups at Captain Hunt

Edda Carmadello led the presentations of each of the above named programs along with that for the visually impaired. Each of the highlights was accompanied by faculty who walked through the major

elements of their work and used visual media as well. All of this work is also attached.

VIII. Transformation- High school update on Student Life

Mr. LaPlante led the information session on high school student life presenting the Trustees with a wealth of information about the numerous opportunities afforded students at the high school. A trifold Guide to Getting Involved was also presented. Four students spoke personally to the Trustees expressing their determination to impact the transformation process.

IX. Pension Reform Resolution for further discussion

By consensus, this discussion was tabled once again in the interest of time.

X. Superintendent's Report

a. Building Committee update

Three bills were presented to the Trustees:

\$1,599.04 JAED on-going work

\$2,500 S. Turner additional reviews for the new project

\$1,518.75 ANC Consultants for continued services

Sonia Rodrigues made a motion to approve the three bills. This was seconded by Cheryl Lafond. The motion carried. (6,0)

The Superintendent informed the Trustees of the Feinstein building report. In part that report established that the waves in the basement floor were solid concrete. Areas of the basement, ceilings and floors up to the third level were opened by construction crews and the engineers were able to note several issues. The biggest concern was noticed at the third floor level where there is about an 8 inch shift or

dip in the floor. Mr. Odeh explained the dramatic need for shoring up the entire set of columns before any full engineering report can be generated. These safety measures will ensure the safety of the engineers as they continue their investigation.

Additionally, the Superintendent informed the Trustees that a discussion of the costs of shoring up using rental equipment or timber took place at the Building Committee meeting. The costs to shore up and to complete the remaining demolition to open holes for a full sight investigation were estimated at \$34,052 using rental equipment. The consensus was that permanent timber would be more expensive; however, in an effort to save time, the committee decided to estimate the costs for a year or so and sought a motion to approve the work and material in order to obtain a full engineering report over the course of the next three weeks or so.

b. Charter Compact update

The superintendent announced that Julie Nora, Michael Magee and she would be traveling to Chicago on December 5 returning on the 6th to meet with Gates Foundation regarding the planning grant and the forthcoming RFP for a long term support grant. The group of district charter leaders is all excited about the possibilities for collaboration and educational exchange afforded us through this grant.

c. Upcoming Transformation Exploration – December 13, 2011

Dr. Gallo reviewed some the expectations for December 13th and

spoke of the strong local reception for this sharing of transformation planning and change.

d. Match enterprise

The superintendent explained the continued negotiations for advancing the plan to have tutors in the style of the MATCH School, Boston, working in CFHS focusing on Mathematics instruction with 9th and 10th graders. The district will make an all-out effort to seek grant money to support the hiring of 30 tutors to serve full time next year.

XI. Board Comments

The members of the Board expressed joy about the celebration of accomplishments within the district programs that were highlighted this evening.

XII. Public Comments

None

XIII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 22, 2011

XIV. Motion to Recess to Executive Session

Sonia Rodrigues motioned to move into executive session pursuant to chapter 42-46-5(a)(2), that this public body convene in executive session to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation. The motion was seconded by Ana-Cecilia Rosado. A roll call vote was heard. Motion carried. (6,0)

XV. Adjournment

At 9:45 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Sonia Rodrigues, seconded by Ana-Cecilia Rosado. Motion carried. (6,0)